

AMENDMENT TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the paragraph starting on page 9, line 17 as follows:

"In the encryption stage ~~40~~⁵⁰, Alice generates an encryption ephemeral private key as random integer value x and computes a corresponding encryption ephemeral public key X , where $X = xG$. As described above, the set (X, x) represents the ephemeral key pair produced in the encryption scheme. With this information, Alice uses Bob's public key B to compute secret key K ~~20~~, given by $K = xB$. Alice then encrypts the message producing $ciphertext = encrypt(K, message)$ ~~22~~."